

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Executive Registry

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

CEA

STAT

DATE

14 JULY 73

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

~~ADDO~~ Mr. Culby

8/29

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ATTACHED IS A STATEMENT ON THE AUTHORITY FOR CIA INVOLVEMENT IN LAOS. ALSO ATTACHED ARE BACKUP DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE USED IN RESOLVING THE QUESTION OF WHAT IS CIA'S AUTHORITY FOR BEING INVOLVED IN LAOS.

CEA

Pls keep available

A good collection
Thanks -

STAT

8/29/73

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CIA authority for involvement in the war in Laos stems directly from the National Security Council Act of 1947, specifically Section 102(d)(5) of the Act which provides that CIA will "...perform such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct." This authority was extended by the CIA Act of 1949 and policy decisions of President Kennedy on 9 March 1961 and 19 June 1963. This original policy guidance has been reaffirmed in a series of later decisions by successor Presidents, the National Security Council and the 40 Committee. The CIA military program in Laos was last reviewed by the 40 Committee on 12 August 1972.